

UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION

OF

JOERG JAHNKE

FOR

METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR PROVIDING RESOURCES

ADAPTED TO A USER ENVIRONMENT

Docket No. 30014200-1009

METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR PROVIDING RESOURCES ADAPTED TO A USER ENVIRONMENT

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This Application claims the benefit of the filing date of the following U.S. and foreign patent applications, both of which are incorporated herein by reference:

European Patent Application No. 00122627.3, entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING RESOURCES ADAPTED TO A USER ENVIRONMENT", filed on October 17, 2000; and

U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/295,784, entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING RESOURCES ADAPTED TO A USER ENVIRONMENT", filed on June 4, 2001.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to providing resources to a user, and in particular, the invention relates to providing resource data that is adapted to a user environment.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

In communication networks, a user, who is, for example, operating a client data processing device, may access various kinds of information that is stored remotely at a server data processing device, which is located at an arbitrary location. The information can be stored, for example, at a data providing server connected to a network, such as the Internet.

The information that is available for access by the user may comprise, for example, text information, image information, video information, or audio information. The information may be presented to the user by generating a web page at the server data processing device and transmitting display contents to the user for local display. A web page is a piece of information that may be stored at a

data server and that may be accessed through a network by a user operating a client data processing device. The user could, for example, specify an address or URL (Uniform Resource Locator) of a particular web page on the network and retrieve the corresponding information. In many cases, web pages are dynamically generated by specific applications upon request by the user. For example, web page applications can be executed at a web server in a process wherein a web page application includes text elements and graphic elements, which are generated into display frames that are transferred to the client for local display.

Communication tools allow a user at a location, provided the user has access to a computer network, to access virtually any kind of information or services throughout the world, including, for example, viewing information for buying a product, retrieving published information, or accessing a user account for setting personal data.

Accordingly, a situation may occur where a large number of users, who are at different locations and who may speak different languages, access the same piece of information that is located somewhere, such as information provided on a web page, and a user may not be familiar with a language the web page is presented in and may not be able to understand the information presented. Further, information can be presented in a format that is specific to a country or region. Users at different locations may expect, for example, date, time or floating point numbers to be presented in a specific format. For example, in the U.S.A., a user may expect a date to be represented as "month/day/year", while, in Germany, a user may expect a date to be represented as "day.month.year".

Therefore, information should be presentable in different languages or formats such that potential users may access and understand the information.

As a solution it is conceivable to write, for example, a web page application, in a number of different languages or formats, one version for each language, such that potential users may access and understand the information presented on the web page by selecting to retrieve the web page in a desired language or format.